

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 23 and 27 as set forth in the previous Reply to Office Action are objected to but include allowable subject matter. Independent claims 9, 12, 20 and 24 have been amended to include the subject matter of objected-to claims 11, 13, 23 and 27 (and any intervening claims), respectively. Thus independent claims 9, 12, 20 and 24 are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 1 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,931,634 (Croix) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,339,419 (Chan). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In this regard, neither reference anywhere teaches or suggests applying data transformation to create an interlocking Feistel network. As such, claims 1 and 16 are patentable, and for at least the same reasons so too are the claims depending therefrom.

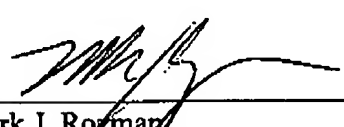
New dependent claims 28 and 29 are patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10/30/07

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark J. Rozman  
Registration No. 42,117  
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.  
1616 S. Voss Road, Suite 750  
Houston, Texas 77057-2631  
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]  
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]  
Customer Number: 21906